# Galleon Documentation

The following documentation was created on July 8, 2004. Feature requests and bug reports should be made either to the Galleon Support Forums at ray.camdenfamily.com /forums or via email to ray@camdenfamily.com. For version number and release history information, please see the readme.txt file.

If you find these forums useful, please consider visiting my wishlist: http://www.amazon.com/o/registry/2TCL1D08EZEYE

## *Installation*

To install Galleon, simply unzip the zip file to your web server. You can place it anywhere on your web server, just be sure to note the location. Inside the folder you will see a subfolder called **installation**. In that folder, you will find two SQL files (sqlserver.sql and mysql.sql) and an Access mdb file. The two SQL files can be used to create either a blank SQL Server of MySQL db. The Access db is a blank Galleon database.

Next, go to the **cfcs** subfolder and open **settings.ini.cfm**. This file obviously determines the settings for Galleon.

The first setting is the **DSN**. Later you will create a DSN for Galleon. If you wish to use the default name, then don't change this.

**Perpage** determines the number of records to show per page.

**FromAddress** is the email address used when notifications are sent to members.

The **rootURL** is the root location of the forums application. At minimum you will have to change this setting.

The **dbtype** setting tells Galleon which type of database you are using. Valid values are: sqlserver, access, or mysql.

Next is the **tableprefix** value. By default, Galleon database scripts use tables all prefixed with "galleon_". You may want to modify your database tables to use another prefix, or no prefix. Once you have updated the database, you will need to update the tableprefix value so that it matches your table prefix.

The **version** number represents the version of Galleon and does not need to be changed.

Galleon supports email verification for new users. If **requireconfirmation** is set to true, an email will be sent to new users. The user must click a verification link before they are allowed to log on.

The **title** attribute lets you give your forums a specific title. So for example, if you were discussing the TV show "Lost", you may want to use the title, Lost Forums. This title is also used in all emails sent from the application.

The last setting, **fullemails**, represents how you will notify folks of new messages. If set to false, users will simply get a message stating that a thread they have subscribed to has been updated. If set to true, they will get the same message along with the body of the new post.

Now switch to your ColdFusion Administrator. Create a DSN with the name you used in the settings file (remember that the default is Galleon). Point it to the database you just created.

At this point the installation should be complete. Open your browser to <your host>/<install folder>. You should see a message saying that no conferences are available. If you then go to <your host>/<install folder>/admin you will be presented with a login form. Enter "admin" for the username and password. Once in, you can begin administrating Galleon.

Delete the installation folder. It should not be kept on your web server.

Galleon caches it's settings. In order to refresh this cache, you can either restart ColdFusion, you can add ?reinit=1 to the URL.

## *Administration*

The Galleon Administrator has three main sections: Conference Options, Security Options, and Stats. Let's start with the section you will spend the most time in, Conference Options.

### Conference Options

Galleon divides your forums three ways. At the highest level you have conferences. A simple site may have only one conference, while a more complex site could have multiple. Consider a Science Fiction web site. It could have a top level conference for Movies, Books, Games, etc.

Forums are the next level of separation. Taking our SciFi example, the Movies conference could have a forum for Star Wars, Star Trek, etc.

Threads are individual conversations inside forums. The Star Wars forum in the Movies conference could have a thread comparing the prequels to the classic trilogy.

Lastly, messages are the individual posts that make up each thread.

Galleon lets you add, edit, delete any of these pieces of content from the administrator. Most of this is self-explanatory, but there are some things you should know:

1.  If your site only has one conference, when a user hits your installation of Galleon they will automatically be pushed to the forums listing.
2.  Forums and Threads can be marked Read Only. If this setting is used, only the Forums Administrator can post messages.
3.  Conferences, Forums, and Threads have an Active flag. If Active is set to false, they will not show up on the web site. This is a nice way to temporarily hide, or archive, content without actually deleting it.
4.  Threads have a "Sticky" flag. A sticky thread will always be on top of other threads when displaying a forum. This can be useful for threads concerning forums rules or another announcements.

## Rank Options

Ranks allow you to mark users based on the number of posts they have created. It allows visitors to your forums to see who may be more experienced or familiar with your forums. Every rank has a name and a minimum number of posts to qualify for that rank. There are no ranks installed by default.

## Security Options

Security options are handled by a user editor. This editor lets you add, edit, and delete users. There are three types of users Galleon understands:

*   ForumsAdmin: These users can use the Administrator and edit posts on the public site.
*   ForumsModerator: These users can edit posts on the public site.
*   ForumsMember: These users can create posts.

In general you will not have to create users. Your visitors will use the registration form to create their own accounts. You may need the admin functionality to "promote" users to moderators or to reset a user's password. Note – while it is possible to assign a user to multiple groups, there is no real need to.

## Stats

The stats page simply displays various reports about your site. You can use these reports to gage how popular conferences/forums are as well as which members are the most active. A new search word report has been added in 1.1. It provides information about the search words being used in your forums.

## Using Galleon

The public facing part of Galleon is rather simple. Users are presented with a selection of conferences, forums, and threads. Users do not need to register or log on to browse the messages. They do need to register or logon to create a new thread or respond to existing threads.

Another option users have is to receive notifications. This option can be set by clicking the **Profile** link. Once turned on, if a message is posted to a thread that the user has posted to, the user will get an email informing them of the new message.

The search engine allows users to search not only messages but conferences, forums, and threads. This is useful for larger sites that may have numerous forums. Users have the choice of doing a phrase, any, or all search. A phrase search will do an exact match. So a search for "Red Rum" will only match Red Rum. An "any" search would match any instance of "Red" or "Rum." An "all" search would only match content that has both "Red" and "Rum."

## RSS Feeds

RSS feeds are automatically created for conferences. Each conference has a unique RSS feed. You can find this by clicking on the RSS link after you have selected a conference. The feed contains the last twenty posts to any thread in any forum in the conference.